

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SCCT-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /085 W

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R 140941Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2486

INFO AMEMBASSY ABUDHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KJWAIT

AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSIO USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11314

E.9. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RC, JA

SUBJ: PLO VISITOR IN TOKYO

REF: TOKYO 10556

SUMMARY: PLO VISITOR TO TOKYO SHAFIK AL-FOUT WILL CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER MIUAZAWA AUGUST 15. JAPANESE OFFICIALS HAVE FOUND AL-FOUT REASONABLE AND UNDERSTANDING SO FAR. END SUMMARY.

1. LATEST PLO EFFORT TO WOO JAPANESE INVOLVES VISIT OF SHAFIK AL-FOUT TO TOKYO. DESCRIBED AS LEADING MEMBER OF PLO ORGANIZATION IN BEIRUT,

AL-FOUT CAME TO JAPAN AUGUST 1 OSTENSIBLY TO ATTEND ANTI-NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONFERENCE COMMEMORATING THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF NAGASAKI AND HIROSHIMA BOMBING. AT PRESS CONFERENCE IN TOKYO AUGUST 13 HE SAID HE HOPED TO MEET FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA
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TO DISCUSS OPENING PLO OFFICE IN TOKYO. HE SAID PLO WOULD ATTACH

NO CONDITION TO ITS PROPOSAL TO OPEN OFFICE. PLO ONLY HOPES, HE REPORTED AS SAYING, THAT JAPAN WILL GUARANTEE PROTECTION TO REPRESENTATIVE ONCE OFFICE OPENED.

2. ASKED HIS VIEW ON RECENT TERRORIST ATTACK IN KUALA LUMPUR, AL FOUT SAID "WE CANNOT APPROVE THIS ACT OF TERRORISM BECAUSE IT WOULD HURT THE IMAGE OF THE PLO." THE PLO MIGHT HAVE TAKEN PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THIS KIND OF TERRORISM BUT IT IS NEITHER A GOVERNMENT OR A COUNTRY." PLO COULD ONLY TAKE STRONG STAND AGAINST SUCH ATTACKS, HE CONTINUED. AL-FOUT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT JAPANESE PEOPLE WOULD UNDERSTAND REASON WHY PALESTINIAN PEOPLE HAD RESORTED TO FORCE IN THEIR STRUGGLE TO ESTABLISH "DEMOCRATIC STATE" IN PALESTINE. HE STATED PLO READINESS TO "COEXIST WITH PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE IN ISRAEL IF ISRELIS AGREE TO DO SO.". IT WAS "PREMATURE" TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONAL PALESTINE GOVERNMENT, BECAUSE CONDITIONS NOT YET MET. PLO, FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD HAVE TO WATCH PROGRESS OF US EFFORTS TO MEDIATE PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST.

3. FIRST MIDDLE EAST DIVDIR WATANABE INFORMED US THAT MIDEAST BUREAU DIRECTOR NAKANURA MET AL-FOUT AUGUST 14 AND THAT FONMIN MIYAZAWA WILL SEE HIM FOR COURTESY CALL AUGUST 15. NAKAMURA WAS RELEIVED TO FIND AL-FOUT REASONABLE, FIRENDLY AND UNDERSTADING OF JAPAN'S POSITION. HE KNOWS THAT GOJ WILL NO PERMIT DIPLOMATIC PRIVELEGES AND WHY. NAKAMURA ALSO EXPLAINED WHY CURRENT REPRESENTATIVE MANSOUR (REFTEL) WASNOT RIGHT PERSON TO REPRESENT PLO IN JAPAN, BUT LEFT DECISION AS TO WHETHER ORNOT HE SHOULD BE REPLACED UP TO AL-FOUT.

4. COMMENT. AFTER SOME BAD EXPERIENCES WITH MANSOUR, PLO APPEARS TO BE TRYING TO SOFT SELL ON JAPANESE.
HODGSON

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